

Pin Cushion/Thread Catcher

You need to know what size pincushion you are going to make first depending on the size of the tile you will put into the base. This keeps it nice and steady on your table. Any size tile will do though.

To make the pincushion

Working with a tile 6 inches square.

This piece of fabric will be cut at 7 1/4 inches by 16 inches.

In the center of one end (or half of your fabric) you will need to embroider a design; if you do not own an embroidery machine you may like to put hand embroidery on it also, or just some fancy stitches in a square. The choice is up to you.

Fold the fabric in half right sides together. Stitch 1/4 inch seam around leaving one side open to insert the tile and the wadding. Remembering which is top and bottom of design as the opening should be at the bottom.

You will need to wrap the tile in a layer of wadding; I roughly stitched this by hand to secure the tile inside the wadding so as to always be securely covered inside the cushion.

Before you insert the tile, fold a 3/4 inch hem allowance under on the raw edge and press with the iron so that it is easier to stitch together by hand when joining cushion to the strap.

After inserting wrapped tile inside bag now add more wadding to your top side until you are satisfied you have enough in there to act as your pin cushion.

To make the pocket

Cut a piece of fabric, 8 1/4 inches by 14 inches.

Fold in half and sew up two sides to form a pocket.

Make a casing around the top to insert the plastic hollow tubing that is used to keep the bag open. Similar to making a casing to insert elastic in like you would a pair of shorts. I made this 3/4 of an inch wide. The length of tubing will depend on the full width of the opening plus about 2 inches extra just to cross over itself. There is no need to tie it off or stitch it together. It stays in place rather nicely. Hand stitch the opening closed. Top stitch around the edge of the bag also. Sew a button onto the inside of the bag just below the tubing. Any size button will be fine. The strap acts as a huge button hole.



To make the attachment strap

Cut a piece of fabric 8 inches by 2 inches. Fold in half lengthwise right sides together, sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ seam allowance. Turn right side out, press and topstitch along one side. This side will become the inner section of the strap. Press again. Fold in half lengthwise and lay it side by side and fold under the end to form a point. The folded piece will fold toward the back. Hold in place and topstitch the other side. Also stitch across the width of the strap at the point end to keep in place.



Now is time to connect cushion and strap.

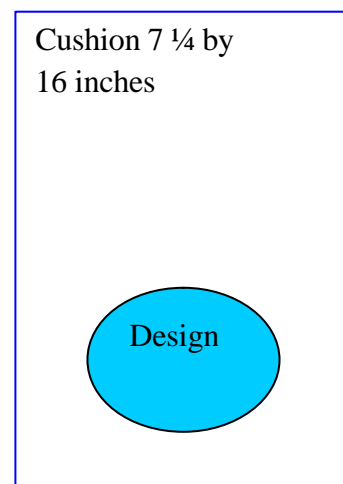
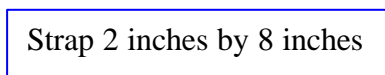
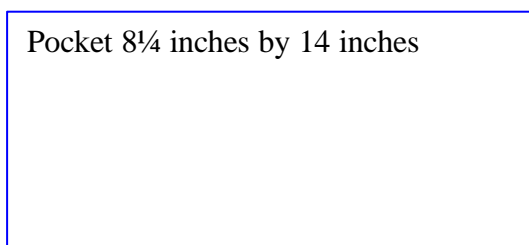
In the center of this cushion opening place the attachment strap. By hand sew the raw edges together including the strap as you go and keeping the strap laying flat at all times.

Connect the cushion to the pocket by doing up the button.

You can sit these beside your sewing machine, on your ironing board to collect all those unwanted threads.

Also a great idea for classes and makes a lovely gift for a sewer.

Enjoy,
Kerry.



For a tile $4 \frac{3}{4}$ inches by $7 \frac{3}{4}$ inches: cut fabric $6 \frac{1}{2}$ inches by 19 inches.

This is the size I made in my photo. I make the bag the same size all the time.